

The County of Centre

PROCLAMATION

NUMBER 16 OF 2013

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behavior in intimate relationships, used by one partner to exert power and gain control over the other; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence can involve physical, sexual, emotional, economic, or psychological threats or actions; and

WHEREAS, anyone can be a victim of domestic violence, regardless of age, gender, economic status, race, religion, sexual orientation, or education; and

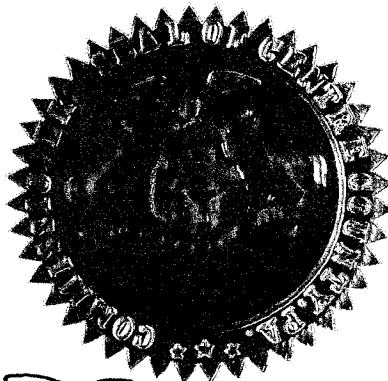
WHEREAS, the statistics are sobering: nationwide, one in four women will experience domestic violence sometime in her life; over the past year the Centre County Women's Resource Center provided services to 925 victims of domestic violence and significant others; 261 persons were assisted with PFA's and court accompaniment, and 131 individuals were provided emergency shelter; and

WHEREAS, children exposed to such violence can suffer serious long-term consequences that may include difficulty in school, post-traumatic disorders, alcohol and drug abuse, and criminal behavior; and

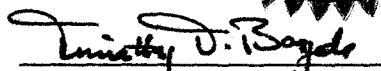
WHEREAS, awareness of the problem is the first step, but it is incumbent on all of us to work together to prevent domestic violence, to respond to the needs of victims, to speak out, and to help ensure that offenders are held accountable;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Centre County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim the month of October, 2013 as "*Domestic Violence Awareness Month*" and urges the citizens in our community to speak out against domestic violence and work together to eliminate domestic violence from our community.


ADOPTED this 1st day of October, 2013.




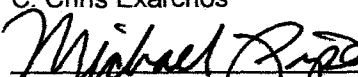
ATTEST:


Timothy T. Boyde, Director
Administrative Services

CENTRE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


Steven G. Dershem, Chairman


C. Chris Exarchos


Michael Pipe